

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  LAURENS MUNICIPAL BROADBAND COMMUNICATION UTILITY	DOCKET NO. 199 IAC 39.2(4)
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**ORDER DESIGNATING ELIGIBLE CARRIER**

(Issued April 28, 2000)

On March 30, 2000, Laurens Municipal Broadband Communication Utility (Laurens) filed a request for universal service eligible carrier status in Iowa. Laurens asks that the Utilities Board (Board) designate Laurens as an eligible telecommunications carrier pursuant to 199 IAC 39.2(4).

Board rule 39.2 provides a means by which the Board can designate Iowa telecommunications companies to be eligible to receive funding from the universal service fund, as defined by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, 47 U.S.C. § 254. Under the Act (and Federal Communications Commission regulations implementing the Act), the Board must determine that a carrier meets certain service requirements before it may be designated an eligible carrier, as set forth in rule 39.2(4). The Board must determine that the requesting carrier meets each of the following requirements to be designated as an eligible carrier:

- 1) Offer the services supported by the federal universal service fund;
- 2) Offer the service using its own facilities or a combination of its own facilities and resale (47 C.F.R. § 54.201(c) provides that "own facilities" includes purchased unbundled network elements):

- 3) Advertise the availability of the supported services; and
- 4) Offer the services throughout the designated service area.

In its request for designation, Laurens states that it satisfies each of these requirements. Based on that representation, the Board finds that Laurens offers the services supported by the federal universal service fund, using its own facilities or a combination of its own facilities and resale. The Board also finds that Laurens advertises and offers the services throughout its designated service area.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. Eligible telecommunications carrier status is granted to Laurens Municipal Broadband Communication Utility, as requested on March 30, 2000. The designated service area for Laurens shall be Laurens' service territory as established in its certificate of public convenience and necessity.

2. The Executive Secretary of the Board shall mail copies of this order to Laurens, the Universal Service Administration Company, the FCC Universal Service Branch, and the FCC Office of the Secretary.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Raymond K. Vawter, Jr.      /s/ Diane Munns  
Executive Secretary

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2000.